

II. REMARKS

Formal Matters

Claims 7-18 and 30-43 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

Claims 7-18 and 30-43 were examined. Claims 42 and 43 were rejected. Claims 7-18 and 30-41 were allowed. Claims 19-28 were withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 42-43 are amended. The amendments to the claims were made solely in the interest of expediting prosecution, and are not to be construed as acquiescence to any objection or rejection of any claim. No new matter is added by these amendments.

Claims 19-28 are canceled without prejudice to renewal, without intent to acquiesce to any rejection, and without intent to surrender any subject matter encompassed by the canceled claims. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the remarks made herein.

Previous rejections withdrawn

Applicants note with gratitude that the following rejections, made in the September 21, 2007 Office Action, have been withdrawn:

- 1) rejection of claims 7-10, 17, 18, 29, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Deng in view of Vitellio and Yusuhiro;
- 2) rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Deng in view of Vitellio and Yusuhiro and further in view of Kukien;
- 3) rejection of claims 12-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Deng in view of Vitellio and Yusuhiro and further in view of Rubinstein;
- 4) rejection of claims 39-41 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Deng in view of Vitellio and Yusuhiro and further in view of Frankel;
- 5) rejection of claims 30-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Deng in view of Vitellio, Yusuhiro, and Kukien; and
- 6) rejection of claims 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Allowable subject matter

Applicants note with gratitude that claims 7-18 and 30-41 are deemed allowable.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 42 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite.

The Office Action stated that the claims reference amino acid lengths comprising “about” 7-72 amino acids or “about” 10-25 amino acids; and stated that “about” is vague and indefinite.

Without conceding as to the correctness of this rejection, claims 42 and 43 are amended to delete “about.”

Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 42 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, has been adequately addressed in view of the remarks set forth above. The Examiner is thus respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

III. CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number GLAD-296.

Respectfully submitted,
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